

### **IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please rewrite Paragraphs 27, 44 and 47 in the specification as follows:

[0027] In the communications system 1 of FIG. 1, the central office 2 connects to the subloop access units 3-1, ..., 3-S using established backhaul transport connections 66-1, ..., 66-S. The subloop access units 3 typically are subloop access points 55 of a conventional telephone system. The subloop access point 3 connect to customer premises 4 including customer premises 4-1, 4-2, ..., 4-CP and 4<sub>1</sub>-1, ..., 4<sub>1</sub>-CP. The customer premises 4-1 is representative and includes, for example, a computer 10-1, a telephone 11 and a computer 10-2. A customer premises 4 can include any number of telephones, computers or other similar communication devices. In the customer premises 4-1 example, the local line 62-1 from the subloop access unit 3-1 as a data line connects directly to computer 10-2 or alternatively as a voice and data line connects through a splitter 9, for splitting voice and data, to the telephone 11 and the computer 10-1. Any combination of voice and/or data lines can be connected at a customer premises 4 using standard components to segregate voice and data at the customer premises 4, at the subloop access ~~3 or 3~~ or elsewhere in the communication system.

[0044] The alternate connection 6 of FIG. 1 and FIG. 2, including R-DSLAMs 8 and alternate backhaul connection 7, is managed by the element manager 23 of FIG. 2. The element manager 23 maintains supervisory and control information about the, ~~backhaul~~ backhaul connection 7 including the wireless network 20 and the wireless network 28. In particular, element manager 23 maintains a database of switches 30, transports 27 and other equipment and facilities that are available and their operation status.

[0047] The master unit 51 includes a processor 31 which processes algorithms for operating the R-DSLAM. The processor 31 connects to an SAR 32 which functions to assemble and disassemble information into an ATM format. The SAR 32 interconnects with the ATM switch fabric 33 which functions to switch packets to customers, connected over the trunk interfaces 34 and the backhaul connections connected over the ATM interface 37. Local management of the master unit 51 is carried out by the local manager 30 connected through the

port unit ~~52~~ 35 (RS-232 format). The local manager ~~54~~ 30 also interconnects to the processor 31, the SAR 32 and the ATM switch fabric 33 via port unit 36 (ETHERNET format).